

**From:** [Allen, Bob \(PCS\)](#)  
**To:** [Miller, Garyg](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Propwash and potential barge strikes and Linde project  
**Date:** Friday, January 09, 2015 2:54:10 PM

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Gary,

Happy New Year to you!

As a follow-up to Scott's below email is the ACOE cap design study part of the SJRWP independent review? Or was that the study that started a while back to address the cap design flaws discovered during the inspection after the small storm we experienced? Do the time frames referenced pertain to the cap design study completion and not the EPA proposed remedy plan for the SJRWP?

Also, on the Linde project do you know if engineering controls will be implemented to avoid disturbing the river sediments.

Thanks..Bob

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**From:** Scott Jones [mailto:sjones@galvbay.org]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 06, 2015 3:42 PM  
**To:** Allen, Bob (PCS); Owens, Rock (CAO); Babin, Latrice (PCS); [stephen.ellis@tceq.texas.gov](mailto:stephen.ellis@tceq.texas.gov); [crystal.taylor@tceq.texas.gov](mailto:crystal.taylor@tceq.texas.gov); Sanders, Herman (Engineering); [gmcmaahan@poha.com](mailto:gmcmaahan@poha.com); [lhenry@poha.com](mailto:lhenry@poha.com); [David.Rivera@dshs.state.tx.us](mailto:David.Rivera@dshs.state.tx.us); [Tina.walker@dshs.state.tx.us](mailto:Tina.walker@dshs.state.tx.us)  
**Subject:** RE: Propwash and potential barge strikes

Thanks, Bob.

FYI - I just got off the phone with Gary Miller. He clarified that propwash effects were NOT factored in the cap design. However, EPA has directed the Corps of Engineers to include propwash effects in the Corps of Engineers review study of the cap design.

Also, he stated that the Corps' study should be complete by mid-April. The EPA proposed plan will likely come out in September after they've had a chance to digest everything.

Scott

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**From:** Allen, Bob (PCS) [mailto:[Bob.Allen@pcs.hctx.net](mailto:Bob.Allen@pcs.hctx.net)]  
**Sent:** Monday, January 05, 2015 4:35 PM  
**To:** Scott Jones; Owens, Rock (CAO); Babin, Latrice (PCS); [stephen.ellis@tceq.texas.gov](mailto:stephen.ellis@tceq.texas.gov); [crystal.taylor@tceq.texas.gov](mailto:crystal.taylor@tceq.texas.gov); Sanders, Herman (Engineering); [gmcmaahan@poha.com](mailto:gmcmaahan@poha.com); [lhenry@poha.com](mailto:lhenry@poha.com); [David.Rivera@dshs.state.tx.us](mailto:David.Rivera@dshs.state.tx.us); [Tina.walker@dshs.state.tx.us](mailto:Tina.walker@dshs.state.tx.us)  
**Subject:** RE: Propwash and potential barge strikes  
**Importance:** High

All,

See attached draft preconstruction baseline site assessment work plan dated 2/2012 prepared for River Fleet which includes a discussion of the pylon installation.



9561406

Report excerpt below...Bob Allen

In order to avoid CERCLA liability, EPA requires that a series of baseline samples be collected before SJRF commence facility construction for barging operations. As per EPA guidance, any sampling effort will need to address environmental issues associated with sediment remobilization accompanying barge traffic and potential contamination redistribution associated with pylon installation efforts that disturb sediment in submerged lands.

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**From:** Scott Jones [<mailto:sjones@galvbay.org>]

**Sent:** Monday, January 05, 2015 3:29 PM

**To:** Allen, Bob (PCS); Owens, Rock (CAO); Babin, Latrice (PCS); [stephen.ellis@tceq.texas.gov](mailto:stephen.ellis@tceq.texas.gov); [crystal.taylor@tceq.texas.gov](mailto:crystal.taylor@tceq.texas.gov); Sanders, Herman (Engineering); [gmcMahon@poha.com](mailto:gmcMahon@poha.com); [lhenry@poha.com](mailto:lhenry@poha.com); [David.Rivera@dshs.state.tx.us](mailto:David.Rivera@dshs.state.tx.us); [Tina.walker@dshs.state.tx.us](mailto:Tina.walker@dshs.state.tx.us)

**Subject:** FW: Propwash and potential barge strikes

Hello Folks-

Happy New Year to you. Hope you had nice holidays.

Just forwarding this message to active members of the CAC to see if you know answers to any of the questions I pose below to Gary Miller about propwashing effects. I know I will get an answer from him, but if you have any info you can share, please do so.

I have been getting sporadic emails and calls from some local community folks since October when the barges started being parked closer to the pits (between the islands and the pits). And you may have seen the TV report on barge activity last month:

<http://www.myfoxbayou.com/story/27666844/residents-fear-barges-a-threat-to-safety-of-toxic-waste-dump>. Would be great to have an answer for folks about propwash.

I personally worry about that NW corner of the pit where there is no submerged liner, but I am no engineer... I don't know if there is any real threat or not.

Thanks-

Scott

Scott A. Jones

Director of Advocacy

Galveston Bay Foundation

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[sjones@galvbay.org](mailto:sjones@galvbay.org)

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**From:** Scott Jones [<mailto:sjones@galvbay.org>]  
**Sent:** Monday, January 05, 2015 9:55 AM  
**To:** 'Miller, Garyg'  
**Subject:** RE: Propwash and potential barge strikes

Happy New Year, Gary. Thanks for the reply.

To clarify, can you let me know the following:

- Are you saying the current cap was designed to take into account the propwashing that is occurring from the barge boats that moving barges that are parked between the islands and the pits? I am personally primarily concerned about the area that does not have a liner underneath the rock.
- When you say this remains a concern, do you mean that the cap integrity may be affected by the propwashing?
- Are you saying that the sedimentation provides protection to the cap?

I have been getting notes of concern from residents, plus there has been media coverage of barge activity so this is probably on many folks' minds.

Feel free to give me a call if needed.

Thanks-  
Scott

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**From:** Miller, Garyg [<mailto:Miller.Garyg@epa.gov>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 30, 2014 9:59 AM  
**To:** [sjones@galvbay.org](mailto:sjones@galvbay.org)  
**Subject:** RE: Propwash and potential barge strikes

Scott,

There have been discussions regarding their operations and the location of the waste pits site, but placement of the cap has been the only action to date. In the draft Feasibility Study, several remedial action alternatives included the construction of a berm to protect the pits, but the study underway by the Corps of Engineers is the only one that I am aware of that specifically addresses cap integrity related to potential barge strikes. Prop wash impacts has been included in the cap design, but this remains a concern for the river area just off the River Fleet property; however, this area was buried under several feet of sediment.

Regards,

Gary Miller  
EPA Remedial Project Manager  
214-665-8318  
[miller.garyg@epa.gov](mailto:miller.garyg@epa.gov)

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**From:** Scott Jones [<mailto:sjones@galvbay.org>]  
**Sent:** Friday, December 19, 2014 1:40 PM  
**To:** Miller, Garyg  
**Subject:** Propwash and potential barge strikes

Hi Gary-

Hope you are well. Can you refresh me on if anything ever came from your conversations with River Fleet on their operations, i.e. did y'all ever discuss placement of some sort of structures (e.g. pilings)?

How about the more recent concerns with propwash?

Have there been any studies to determine if these operations are a threat to the pit's integrity?

Thanks-  
Scott

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